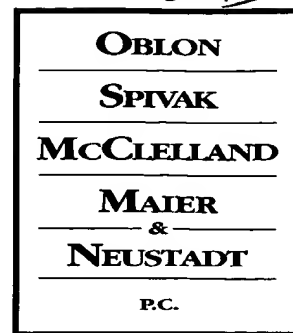




Docket No.: 207224US0

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/846,255
Applicants: Satoshi KIKUCHI, et al.
Filing Date: May 2, 2001
For: CLEANING PROCESS FOR SUBSTRATE SURFACE
Group Art Unit: 2813
Examiner: Schillinger

SIR:

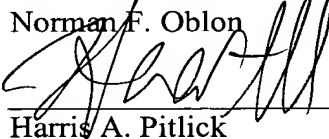
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



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DOCKET NO: 207224US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SATOSHI KIKUCHI, ET AL. : EXAMINER: SCHILLINGER, L. M.
SERIAL NO: 09/846,255 :
FILED: MAY 2, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2813
FOR: CLEANING PROCESS FOR SUBSTRATE :
SURFACE :

RESPONSE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is a response to the Office communication dated August 19, 2005 refusing to consider the Related Cases Statement filed May 24, 2005 (RCS).

The RCS simply brings to the attention of the Office recently-filed applications pursuant to the duty of disclosure. Since the applications listed were filed less than 3 months before the date of the RCS, the RCS was timely under 37 CFR 1.97. In addition, the Office, since September 2004, has waived the requirement in 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii) of submission of copies of application parts, when these applications have been scanned in the Office's IFW system. Finally, while 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1)(ii) requires a column for the Examiner's initials, the RCS provides ample space, such as at the right margin, for such initials.

The failure to properly consider the RCS was arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and not otherwise in accordance with law. It should be considered.

Respectfully submitted,

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